(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Army shot down an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) in Poonch Sector of Jammu and Kashmir on 6th January, 2002;

(b) whether firing by Pakistan Army has been intensified along border during the last few months; and

(c) whether India has made all necessary preparations to thwart any attempt by Pakistan to cross over the Line of Control?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) There has been a marginal decrease in the firing along border/Line of Control (LoC) during the last two months.

(c) Pakistan Army activities in close proximity of the LoC, is constantly monitored and a high state of vigilance is being maintained.

Safety Measures in Coal PSU Mines

621. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the name of the coal mines under coal public sector undertakings at present State-wise;

(b) whether adequate safety measures have been taken in these coal mines;

(c) at what level internal safety aspects in these coal mines are checked/ reviewed;

(d) whether Government have taken extra safety measures in these mines after some accidents in these mines, last year; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The name of coal mines under the coal public sector undertakings, state-wise, as on 31.12.2001 are given in the Annexure [*See* Appendix 195, Annexure No. 9]

(b) Yes, Sir. Adequate safety measures have been taken in these coal mines.

(c) The internal safety aspects in these coal mines are checked/reviewed by the following bodies:—

Safety Committee at Mine Level: Comprises equal numbers of

representatives of Trade Unions and the colliery management wherein safety aspects of the mine are reviewed monthly. Action taken report on its recommendations is placed before the committee in the next meeting.

Area Level Bipartite/Tripartite Committees: Comprises representatives of Trade Unions and Management. Often a representative of DGMS also participates. The committee reviews all safety aspects of mines in the area bi-annually.

Company level Tripartite Committees: Comprises representatives of Trade Unions, management and DGMS and reviews safety aspects of mines of the company bi-annually.

At Holding Company Level, the CIL Safety Board reviews safety of the mines every month in the meeting with CMDs of subsidiary companies of CIL.

Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines: This is a Tripartite body chaired by the Minister for Coal and Mines where Trade Unions, management of all coal companies of the country (including private enterprises) participate along with representatives from the Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) under the Ministry of Labour. This body meets bi-annually to review safety in coal mines.

(d) and (e) After the accident at Bagdigi underground mine of BCCL in February 2001, Coal India Limited made a thorough review of precautions against inundation in its mines and taken the following steps:—

— Check correlation surveys have been undertaken to establish the barriers between waterlogged workings wherever danger of inundation exists. This work is nearing completion.

— Assessment of requirement of survey personnel and survey instruments have been made and corrective action is being taken wherever required.

— Thurst has been given on the work of connecting mine plans to the national grid and this work is nearing completion.

— A new technology for establishing the barrier between waterlogged workings by RADAR, without physically proving the barrier by drilling has been tried in some mines of BCCL in collaboration with National Institute of Rock Mechanics, Kolar and the results have been found to correlate with survey measurements. This method is being tried out in more mines.